

April 7, 2016

TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN:

I am responding to the proposed projects in the Darrington District of the Mt Baker National Forest. The Segelsen Collaborative Vegetation and Aquatic restoration project deserves your support for several reasons. Most importantly is the opportunity of providing job opportunities for our town and community, the benefits of aquatic restoration, stand enhancement of the forest, funds created will stay in the area to maintain roads, campgrounds, trails and etc.

Seconding regarding the Blowdown Salvage, I get the hint that the USFS is *cowering* to the special interest like Pilchuck Society and NCCC who are opposed to any tree being removed anywhere. The proposed action would remove a portion of the blowdown. Members and citizens of our town and community have been attending numerous meetings searching for ways for our town to survive. If the USFS would clean up all the fresh blowdown on these two sites; it could create approximately a dozen jobs for a month of work for our community. All the high value logs should be removed: which will still leave knotty tops and breakage of woody debris sufficient material left to provide habitat for creepy crawlies and others.

Anyone with an ounce of common sense would support removing all the fresh blowdown as the revenues from a salvage sale remains in the Darrington District for preparation and offering of other salvage sales projects plus road maintenance and restoration. I am sure that those who opposed these proposals would not hesitate to take advantage of the benefits derived from work completed.

This is a big forest and the projected proposals aren't even a pin prick on the map. It is the USFS's job to maintain the health of our forest by reducing the down material for prevention of future fires and infestation of the Douglas-fir bark beetle are just a few reasons. I support all the proposed projects, especially the above mentioned.

Bob Boyd
Darrington Community Member
DARA Member
Darrington Collaborative Member